

# ALL ABOUT US

Volume 45 Issue 8 Accotink Academy Preschool 6215 Rolling Road Springfield, VA 22152 (703) 451-5797 April 2010

## Calendar Notes

### March 29-April 3

Spring Break—No School

### April 5

Enrichment Classes Begin

### April 5-7

Spring Parties and Egg Hunts

### April 13

Staff Training

AM Classes: 10:45-12:45

PM Classes: 1:30-3:30

### April 12-16

Dress Down Days All Week

### April 17

Spring Recital at Lee High School

Performance Times

1:00-3:30 PM

### April 19-23

Week of the Young Child

Classroom Doors Decorated

### April 26 & 29

Kidwell Farm Trips

### Menu

Apr. 5-9 Popcorn

Goldfish Crackers

Apr. 12-16 Saltines

Graham Crackers

Apr. 19-23 Cheez-its

Graham Crackers

Apr. 26-30 Vanilla Wafers

Wheat Thins

### Units Of Study

Signs of Spring

Birds, Nests, and Seeds

Dinosaurs

Farm Animals



## **FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK**

Each year during the month of April, NAEYC (the National Association for the Education of Young Children) celebrates the "Week of the Young Child" which brings awareness to the importance of fostering the growth and development of young children. This year, it will be celebrated from April 19th-23rd and the theme is "Early Years Are Learning Years". To honor this occasion, we are having each class decorate their door with art work created by the children. Every door will represent a favorite storybook selected by the students. Please make sure to take the time to admire the classroom doors and our "budding artists" when dropping off and picking up your children.

We all know the importance of reading with our children every chance we can so they will develop a love for books and reading. Children who learn to love books will be children who grow up to be good readers. Developing early reading skills is crucial to a child's success in school. Children who enter school with larger vocabularies start school ahead of children who have not been exposed to enriched language environments. The best time for children to learn a love for books is while they are young. Parents can foster a love for books and reading with their young children by making story time a regular part of their day. Favorite stories and books are often enjoyed just before bedtime and can be something children look forward to at the end of the day.

Listed below you will find a few suggestions for getting your children to develop an appreciation for books and reading and also give them a jump on literacy skills.

- Keep a supply of books and other reading materials where children can reach them. Add new books as their skills and interests change. Make sure you have plenty of adult books on hand nearby so your children can observe you reading.
- Create a comfortable, cozy and well lit spot which children will find inviting and want to curl up with a book.
- Set aside time every day for reading and make it a fun experience which children will look forward to.
- Foster print awareness by pointing out words as you read to your child.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS



### Field Trip to Kidwell Farm



On Monday, April 26th and Thursday, April 29th, we will be taking our students on a field trip to Kidwell Farm in Herndon. Since the children will be outdoors at the farm, *please dress your child in comfortable and suitable clothing. They will not need to wear uniforms on the day their class is scheduled for this field trip.*

If you would like to be a chaperone and accompany your child's class to the farm, please let the teacher know as soon as possible since bus space is very limited. Please be aware that children other than Accotink students, (siblings, etc.) are not allowed to ride the bus to the farm. Parents may carpool or meet us at the farm. Your child's teacher will let you know which day the class will be going to the farm. On Monday, April 26th, this will be an extended day for 3 day morning and afternoon students. On Thursday, April 29th, our 5 day morning and afternoon classes will have their extended day. On both of these days, classes will dismiss at 1:45 PM. This is one of the children's favorite field trips.

### \*\*\*\*\* Uniform Exchange Coming in May ! \*\*\*\*\*

Watch for information coming out next month about our used uniform sale which will be held here at Accotink during the week of May 17-21. This is a great way to get rid of uniforms your children have outgrown as well as purchasing larger sizes, etc. Mark your calendars! More information regarding this will be sent home soon.

## Sunshine Summer Program

**When:** June 3—July 23, 2010

**Where:** Accotink Academy Preschool

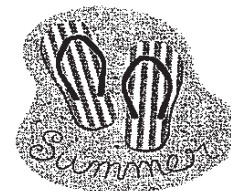
**Age:** 3 - 6 year olds



(child must be 3 by April 1, 2010 and toilet trained. Child's 7th birthday must be after December 1, 2010). Proof of age is required for children who have not previously attended Accotink.

**Time:** 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Monday - Friday

<b>Classes:</b>	2-Day Program (T/Th)	\$60.00 per week
	3-Day Program (M/W/F)	\$90.00 per week
	3-Day Program(T/W/Th)	\$90.00 per week
	5-Day Program (M-F)	\$150.00 per week



**Registration:** Ongoing through May 22, 2010. Registration forms and a non-refundable registration fee of \$45.00 may be turned into the office. *If you register by April 7, 2010, you are guaranteed space on the days you request.* Please address questions to the director, Mrs. Fran McBride. She can be reached at 703-451-5797.

*Director's Desk continued from page 1*

Have your children point out the letters and words on street signs, cereal boxes, newspapers and magazines, greeting cards, etc. You can even make a game of this.

- Keep writing materials such as washable nontoxic crayons and markers, paints and brushes, and different kinds of paper where children can reach them and use them. Children can also cut out letters and words from magazines to paste onto paper and make their own booklets.
- Limit TV viewing and video games as much as possible. Help children make other choices for free time activities (reading, writing, playing, talking, etc.)
- Visit your local library often and let children select their own books to check out. You can even get them their own library card. Soon they will look forward to their visits and being able to make their own book choices.

Literacy is not only just learning the alphabet and letter sounds. It is pretending and puppet play, scribbling on paper, talking to a teddy bear and making up and retelling stories. It is recognizing symbols, signs and labels. Open up the world of reading with your children and watch their imaginations and enthusiasm soar!



*Happy Reading! Happy Spring!*

*Susan & Lexie*



### LOST AND FOUND



Over the course of the school year, we have collected many articles of clothing and miscellaneous items which have been left here at school. If you think your child may be missing something, please check the lost and found box, located adjacent to the water fountain just outside our office in the hallway. At the end of the year, all articles and items left in the box will be donated to a local charity.



*"From your parents you learn love and laughter and how to put one foot in front of the other. But when books are opened you discover you have wings"*

*—Helen Hayes*



### Respecting Church Property

Messiah Methodist Church has requested children **not be allowed to climb the trees out front on the lawn** during arrival and dismissal times. This request has come from the church's Board of Directors and the Facility's Manager. This request includes not only Accotink students but the Child Enrichment Program as well. Many of the trees and shrubbery on the church grounds were planted in memory of former parishioners and loved ones who passed away. We ask that parents be respectful and mindful of this when watching their children outside.

Children should **not** be climbing on the brick retaining walls next to the steps as well as the brick enclosure surrounding the heating and air conditioning units adjacent to the parking lot. This is very dangerous and we would hate to see any child fall and get hurt. Now that the weather is getting warmer, we would encourage you to consider Cardinal Forest Park which is located within walking distance from the school on Roxbury Road. They have a wonderful playground and a large grassy field where the children can play after school. We appreciate your cooperation as we strive to keep our students safe.

## 2010 RECITAL SCHEDULE

This year our recital will be held on Saturday, April 17th, at Lee High School. The theme this year will be *"Singing and Dancing Through Spring"*. Costumes will be coming home soon and you will need to try it on your son/daughter as soon as you receive it in order to allow for any necessary alterations. Included with the costume, you will find an instruction sheet as well as a photograph which will show how it is worn. Below, is the schedule for both performances which will be held at 1:00 pm. and 3:30 pm. Be sure to mark your calendars for this much anticipated event!

### 1:00 PM Show

- Buell's 2AM Class
- Magalong's 2AM Class
- Greenhaugh's 2AM Class
- Winston's 5AM Class
- McBride's 5PM Class
- Scavongelli's 3PM Class
- Altman's JKAM Class



### 3:30 PM Show

- Buell's 3AM & 3PM Class
- Yocom's 3AM Class
- Scavongelli 3AM Class
- O'Pray's 3AM Class
- McBride's 5AM Class
- Searle's JKAM Class
- Wagner/Greenhaugh's Kindergarten Class

## Kindergarteners Celebrate Hundreds Day

Last month our kindergarten classes celebrated "Hundreds Day" with lots of fun activities. This celebration is held each year and it marks the 100th day of learning at school. Parents and teachers worked together to create activities which allowed the children to make good use of their counting skills and "hundreds" knowledge. We really appreciate having Mrs. Heidlebaugh (Grant's mom) and Mrs. McGuill (Aliya's mom) help with this special occasion. As always, we appreciate having parents help out in the classrooms and giving so generously of their time and talents.



## Dress Down Days Week of April 12-16

Since the week of April 12-16th will be a busy one, we have decided that we will have "dress down days" for the entire week. On Tuesday, April 13th we will have our staff training meeting and also, the children will be very busy practicing for the recital during the remainder of the week. We will resume our uniform policy the following week which will be April 19-23. Don't forget to have your child wear play clothes for their scheduled farm field trip on April 26th or 29th.